

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Norbert NIX

Group Art Unit:

Application No.: New Application

Examiner:

Filed: December 8, 2003

Atty. Dkt. No.: 101749-00007

For: METHODS FOR ELIMINATING ERROR SOURCES OF MAGNETIC
SENSORS USED FOR THE MEASUREMENT OF COATING THICKNESS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

December 8, 2003

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date or the date of filing a CPA, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, or (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.

2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

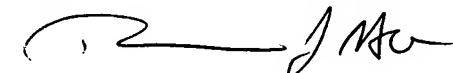
b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

- c. A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$130.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

4. The references were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent application No. 10/087,216, filed March 4, 2002, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR §1.98(d).

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: PTO-1449 Form

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|---|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| FORM PTO-1449 | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | | ATTY. DOCKET NO. 101749-00007 | SERIAL NO. New Application |
| LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> | | APPLICANT Norbert NIX | | |
| | | FILING DATE December 8, 2003 | GROUP | |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB-CLASS | FILING DATE |
|------------------|----|--------------|----------|----------------|-------|-----------|-------------|
| | AA | 3,359,495 | 12/19/67 | McMASTER et al | | | |
| | AB | 4,695,797 | 9/22/87 | DEUTSCH et al | | | |
| | AC | 5,343,146 | 8/30/94 | KOCH et al | | | |
| | AD | 5,977,766 | 11/02/99 | LINDER et al | | | |
| | AE | 6,150,810 | 11/21/00 | ROYBAL | | | |
| | AF | 6,504,363 B1 | 1/07/03 | DOGARU et al | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB-CLASS | TRANSLATION YES NO PART. |
|--|----|--------------|------|---------|-------|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| | AG | | | | | | |
| | AH | | | | | | |
| | AI | | | | | | |
| | AJ | | | | | | |
| | AK | | | | | | |
| | AL | | | | | | |

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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| AM | |
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| AO | |

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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.